

May 5

2 Esdras 5:42-48

“All At Once?”

⁴² And he said unto me, I will liken my judgment unto a ring: like as there is no slackness of the last, even so there is no swiftness of the first.

⁴³ So I answered and said, Coudest thou not **make** those that have been made, and be now, and that are for to come,

at once; that thou
mightest shew thy
judgment the sooner?
⁴⁴ Then answered he me,
and said, The creature
may not haste above the
maker; neither may the
world hold them at once
that shall be **created**
therein. ⁴⁵ And I said, As
thou hast said unto thy
servant, that thou, which
givest life to all, hast
given life at once to the
creature that thou hast
created, and the creature
bare it: even so it might

**now also bear them that
now be present at once.**

**⁴⁶ And he said unto me,
Ask the womb of a**

**woman, and say unto her,
If thou bringest forth
children, why dost thou **it**
not together,**

**but one after another?
pray her therefore to
bring forth ten children at
once. ⁴⁷ And I said, She
cannot: but must do **it by**
distance of time. ⁴⁸ Then**

said he unto me, Even so
have I given the womb of
the earth to those that be
sown in it **in their times.**

While it may seem
obvious that earth
could not sustain

everyone of the present
and future at the same
time, that was the
request. Esdras was

asking if time could be
sped up so judgment
could occur sooner. To
support his premise,
Esdras cited either one
of two situations. One,
which seems more
likely, was the initial
creation as being “at
once” (probably in
reference to the 6 days
of

creation as we now
have recorded in
Genesis). The second
possibility is unclear.
Esdras stated (in verse
45) that the Being had
told him, It had given
“life at once to the
creature it had
created.”

I'm not sure what this
is in reference to, but

the angel neither
confirmed nor denied
having said it.

Instead, the angel
responded that though
a woman may give
birth to many, her
womb cannot produce
all the children at the
same time. He said,
“the womb of the
earth” is the same way.

Creation does not
happen all at once. The
angel was saying:
You're a created being.
No creature can go
faster than the Creator.
Verse 44(a)

uses, "...may not haste
above the Maker".

An important take-
away from this passage

is that creation could not have been and cannot be done all at once. Further, in anything, we, as God's creations, can't speed judgment. Every thing must be done within the Maker's own timing.

Though we, as did Esdras, may

sometimes want to
move certain things on
a little faster, there are
some things in life
which just have to run
their courses.

As with THE END,
whenever that may
take place, it cannot be
rushed and
generations of
creations cannot
occur all at once.